

## **Michigan Water Resources Conservation Advisory Council October 9, 2009, Meeting Summary**

Council members in attendance were Sumedh Bahl, James Clift, Jon Coleman, Michael Gregg, Mark Lemons, Peter Manning, Timothy Neumann, Scott Piggott, Frank Ruswick, Dr. Paul Seelbach, Dr. Pat Soranno, Bob Walther, and Paul Zugger.

Absent members were Jon Allan, Dr. Bryan Burroughs, Frank Ettawageshik, Craig Hoffman, Dr. Jo Latimore, Michael Newman, Richard Slevatz, and Samuel Wendling

Guests present were Jim Cleland, Abby Eaton, Pat Fouchey, Dave Hamilton, Bill Horn, Tammy Newcomb, and Jim Nicholas.

### **Welcome – Housekeeping items – Review agenda and goals for the day**

Pat Fouchey collected \$8 from all present for lunch before the meeting started. At 10:10 Scott Piggott welcomed everyone. Went around the room introducing ourselves.

Chairman Scott Piggott thanked Paul Zugger (MUCC) for allowing the WRCAC to meet in their facility.

Approval of Draft Summary of September 11 WRCAC Meeting.doc was accepted as written to be placed on the [www.michigan.gov/wrcac](http://www.michigan.gov/wrcac) webpage.

Scott Piggott said today's topic is to review the report. Thanks to the committee chairs for all their work. Scott Piggott said all of the reports were to him by the 17-18<sup>th</sup>. On September 27 the draft report was sent to all members. Scott Piggott said he tried to incorporate the comments / feedback and came up with October 9 WRCAC final report draft 2.doc – copies distributed to all present.

### **Executive Order 2009-45**

Frank Ruswick distributed the October 8 Press Release titled: Ongoing streamlining effort abolishes DNR, DEQ: transfers functions to DNRE which is a summary of the effect of Executive Order 2009-45 that relegates our duties to NRC. The press release says: "Several boards, councils or committees are abolished by the executive order." The WRCAC Members were under the impression that the WRCAC would be disbanded and said: "Should probably just place in report that we recognize the executive order."

### **Final Review of Report**

Displaying the report through an LED Projector Scott Piggott said in the previous reports didn't have a table of contents but because of length thought one was needed. Next is the glossary of terms. Scott Piggott said originally wanted a one page executive summary but could only get it down to four. The council went through the first 22 pages of the 49 report before a half hour lunch was taken.

### **Lunch**

From 11:54 to 12:31 the council broke for lunch that was set up in the MUCC Break room.

**Final Review of Report**

From 12:31 to 1:41 pages 23 through 36 were reviewed and discussed. From 1:42 to 2:12 the appendixes that started on page 37 through 49 were reviewed. Scott Piggott said to send any corrections / suggestions to him ASAP. The report is due but will take a couple of days to reword. Will then sent it out to members for one last review. Once completed the report will be sent to the legislation. After they have had time to review, the executive members will probably meet with the legislators.

**Innovations Awards**

Dave Hamilton said the Council of State Governments has awarded the Water Withdrawal Assessment Process (WWAP) as a Midwestern regional finalist in the 2009 Innovations Awards Program. The committee focuses strictly on state programs. DEQ applied and received a notice that the WWAP is 1 of the 6 finalist's. The write up describing the WWAP and submitted to the Council of State Governments recognized that an important part of the innovation was the collaborative model used in its development. This included both how a stakeholders group (the Groundwater Conservation Advisory Council) oversaw the process development, and the scientific collaboration in developing the models and screening tool. And of course the write up explained how the WWAP itself is an innovation. It is great to get this recognition. Congratulations to the Council.

**New Business and Public Comment**

Paul Seelbach said he reviewed a document for Ohio. They will implement an ELOHA Based Tool. Dave Hamilton said Wisconsin has asked about the Water Withdrawal Assessment Process. Scott Piggott said Michigan has opened eyes!

**Next Meeting**

Scott Piggott said he would host the next WRCAC Meeting. It will be Friday January 15, 2010, Meeting at the Farm Bureau Center on 7373 W Saginaw Highway in Lansing, Michigan from 10:00 to 3:00. (Due to Executive Order 2009-45 this meeting was cancelled.)

**2: 20 Adjourn**